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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Monday, November 14, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room A , second floor of the Cannon Building
MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:	January 23, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rochelle Mason, Professional Member, **President**, Presiding
John Mucha, Professional Member, **Vice President**
Florienda Scott-Cobb, Professional Member
Kyla Gleockler, Public Member **Secretary**
Sandra Bisgood, Public Member (entered 1:10 p.m.)
Dajoun Sewell, Public Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General
Nicole Williams, Administrative Specialist III

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lori Scott, Professional Member

ALSO PRESENT

Zoe Plerhoples, Deputy Attorney General
Matt Boyer, Esquire, Connolly Gallagher
Lori Scott, LCSW
David Scott
Dr. Marlene Saunders, National Association of Social Work, Delaware Chapter

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed October 17, 2016 minutes for approval. Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Scott-Cobb, to approve the October minutes as written. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Deliberations for Public or Written Comments for Rules and Regulations

There was no written comment or public comment at the hearing. Ms. Kelly advised the Board of the written comments from Nemours who endorsed the Board's rule revisions and read the letter to the Board. Ms. Kelly marked the letter from Nemours as Board Exhibit 3 for the record.

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood to adopt the revisions to the rules and regulations as presented. Ms. Sewell abstained. By majority vote, the motion carried.

New Board Member

Ms. Dajoun Sewell was introduced to the Board as the new public member. The Board welcomed Ms. Sewell.

Failure to Comply with Consent Agreement – Michelle Ropeter

Ms. Kelly advised that Ms. Ropeter has not yet complied with the conditions of the consent agreement in which she entered signed as of Feb 2015.

The Board reviewed and discussed Ms. Ropeter's consent agreement. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Gleockler to send a letter to Ms. Ropeter advising that her license will remain suspended until she is in compliance with all conditions of the consent agreement. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of Application(s) to Sit for ASWB Clinical Exam

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha to ratify the below applications to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Patrick Adzadu	Patience Agbeviady	Tiffany Barnes	Barry Gaynor
Amanda Gordy	Elena Layton	LaToya Reese	Amanda Venezia
Nicole Wolff-Conley			

Ratification of Application(s) for Licensure by Reciprocity

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha to ratify the below application for licensure by reciprocity. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Elizabeth Cobb

Status of Complaints

Complaint #31-01-16 – Sent to the Attorney General's office

Review of Consent Agreement – Christine Caputo

Ms. Kelly provided a brief summary of both cases for Christine Caputo and Lori Scott for Ms. Sewell and explained the process leading up to entering into a consent agreement. The Board reviewed and discussed the consent agreement for Ms. Caputo. Ms. Kelly advised that the Board has the option to either accept the consent agreement as written or reject the consent agreement with their recommendations.

Although Ms. Caputo agreed to the terms of the consent agreement, the Board did not agree with them. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood to reject the consent agreement for Ms. Caputo on the basis that discipline was not warranted. Mr. Mucha was recused. By majority vote, the motion carried.

Review of Consent Agreement – Lori Scott

Deputy Attorney General Zoe Plerhoples addressed the Board on behalf of the State and advised that the State wishes to withdraw the current consent agreement as there has been a new complaint recently filed against Ms. Scott. Ms. Plerhoples was not at liberty to discuss the details of the new complaint. The State asked that the Board not enter into this consent agreement due to the new complaint and until the new complaint has been fully investigated and the allegations have been substantiated. Ms. Plerhoples advised that Case law regarding retraction of plea bargains, such as *Shields v. State*, 374 A.2d 816 (1977), applies and therefore does not want the consent agreement entered into the record with the Board since the new complaint is pending. Ms. Scott did not divulge information of having another pending complaint.

Attorney Matt Boyer, counsel for Ms. Scott, addressed the Board regarding the consent agreement for Ms. Scott and the State's request to withdraw this consent agreement. Mr. Boyer asked that the Board and the State continue to move forth with the agreed upon consent agreement and not rely on case law *Shields v. State*, 374 A.2d 816 (1977) as it is a criminal case for first degree murder in which the defendant was sentenced to death. Mr. Boyer argued that Ms. Scott's case does not constitute detrimental reliance by the State upon said consent agreement. Mr. Boyer provided case law in support of his argument.

At 2:06 p.m. the Board entered into a short recess to review Ms. Scott's case. The Board returned from recess at 2:33 p.m. Ms. Kelly addressed Mr. Boyer regarding the case law submitted by Mr. Boyer. Ms. Kelly advised the Board that they have the authority to continue forward with this consent agreement. Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Gleockler to review and make a determination on the consent agreement for Ms. Scott. Mr. Mucha was recused. By majority vote, the motion carried. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood to accept the consent agreement for Ms. Scott as submitted. Mr. Mucha was recused. By majority vote, the motion carried.

Review and Consideration of Hearing Officer's Recommendation for Pamela Davis – Case #31-04-15

Ms. Kelly explained briefly of the incident regarding Pamela Davis and the violations that occurred against the practice of social work. The Board reviewed and discussed the recommendation for Ms. Davis. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha to accept the recommendation as submitted. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Review of 2017 calendar

The Board reviewed the calendar and accepted the proposed dates for 2017.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for the Board to review.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Mason thanked Ms. Bisgood and Ms. Scott-Cobb for their years of service to the Board as both Ms. Bisgood's and Ms. Scott-Cobb's terms have now expired.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Saunders addressed the Board and thanked them for their work and acceptance of the proposed regulation for the new multi-tier licensure. Dr. Saunders additionally advised that she received correspondence from Mr. Mangler regarding the next steps in the legislative process. Ms. Mason inquired if the Sunset Committee meeting information could be posted on the Division's website. Ms. Williams will contact Mr. Mangler regarding this matter. Dr. Saunders inquired if the proposed bill will be posted to the website prior to Joint Sunset Committee. Ms. Kelly advised that is not the procedure for a bill to be posted to the website for the Joint Sunset Committee.

Ms. Mason advised that the January 2017 meeting date was changed due to the third Monday actually falling on a holiday.

Lori Scott addressed the Board regarding the memo on the duty to report as it was very vague and should be clarified going forward and the fact that the responsibility of defining scope of practice falls on the Board and the delineations are not clear in the scope of practice.

Pamela Davis addressed the Board to express her gratitude for the hard work of the Board to ensure all licensees follow all policies and procedures and the health, safety and welfare of the public is protected. Ms. Davis further advised that many of the ethics courses do not cover the actual sanctions that are available to the Board for violations of any ethical standards and volunteered to provide that information from a personal standpoint since she has encountered that type of situation that will teach what could happen personally and professionally for not adhering to the policies and procedures as set forth in this State and in other States as well.

Dr. Saunders further advised that Ms. Davis provides a great example for teaching in a classroom what can happen to a licensee in the field when there are ethical violations.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole M. Williams, Administrative Specialist III
Delaware Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners

The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Board members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall for presentations.